

A GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

by Sally Beske



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A Gift for Christmas

A Christmas musical for children

by Sally Beske

SYNOPSIS

During a rehearsal for their Christmas play, the children discover that they will not be able to perform the parts they were assigned. Everyone, including the audience, is transformed into Christmas presents when we learn that being gifts to each other is what we are truly meant to be.

Humorous, heartwarming, and easy to produce, this musical includes stage directions and complete costume instructions. The five songs in this show are fun to sing and easy to learn. They are written in a comfortable range with melodies included in the piano accompaniment. With lyrics that are easy to remember and a message that reaches all ages, this musical creates lasting memories for audience and performers alike.

Performance length is 25 minutes. *A Christmas Gift* may be performed by 20 to 120-plus children ages 4-18 with five adult actors.

SONGS

1. "Give This Song Away"
2. "The Shepherds Revolt"
3. "The Snow Song"
4. "Look at You"
5. "You Are a Gift"

CAST OF CHARACTERS

THE ADULT CAST

For added fun and believability, use the people who actually play these roles in your production.

THE DIRECTOR

Non-speaking part only.

Costume suggestion: Casual clothes that would normally be worn to a rehearsal. Optional: A sweatshirt with the word “director” across the front.

THE DIRECTOR’S ASSISTANT

Speaking part and soloist.

Costume suggestion: Casual clothes that would normally be worn to a rehearsal.

THE COSTUME MISTRESS

Speaking part.

Costume suggestion: Casual clothes that would normally be worn to a rehearsal. Optional: Add from the following list — swatches of fabric pinned to her shoulders, a pincushion on her wrist, a couple rolls of tape around her arm, a glue gun sticking out of her back pocket, hair pinned up but falling down all over the place.

THE CUSTODIAN

Speaking part.

Costume suggestion: A custodian’s uniform. Optional: Add a nameplate on the chest and carry a broom, mop, or snow shovel.

THE ANNOUNCER

Speaks one sentence at the beginning of the play.

Choose a minister, the principal, a teacher, or a parent.

Costume suggestion: Dress for a performance, more formally than the rest.

THE YOUTH CAST

Regardless of the suggested age, any age grouping can work and the size of each group can vary.

THE SNOWFLAKES

*Suggested ages: kindergarten, first-, and second-graders.
Two songs, group speaking parts, two individual speaking parts.*

For snowflake costumes: White turtlenecks and black pants or skirts. Snowflakes on sticks. Plastic snowflakes may be ordered from *Oriental Trading Company* at 1-800-228-2269. These can be hot glued to paint stir sticks (normally free for the asking at any hardware store) or shortened dowel rods that have been painted white. Feather boas make snow necklaces or head pieces. Simplicity pattern number 8153 offers a tunic shown for an angel. Minus the wings and gold braid, this could be used as a snowflake costume. The boys in your group might enjoy carrying a child-sized snow shovel if the feathers seem too feminine.

THE CHORUS

*Suggested ages: third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders.
Two songs, group speaking parts, one soloist,
two individual speaking parts.*

For chorus member costumes: Children should wear casual clothes that are easy to change in and out of. Have each child bring from home a set of pajamas in a paper grocery bag with their name printed clearly on the front of the bag. Make sure they bring slippers or socks for their feet. Additional items that are fun to add are small blankets, teddy bears, and pillows. Each child could bring one of these additional items. Novelty slippers, robes, and curlers for the girls are also good to add. When the children change into their pajamas, have them put their street clothes into their paper bag so that everything will be there when it is time to leave. They have plenty of time during the show to change.

Chorus members need a large bow on a ribbon that can be placed around their neck.

Additional information: Adult volunteers will be needed backstage to help the children change into their pajamas. Be sensitive to a child's need for privacy while changing their clothes. If this group is large, there might not be enough time for the bows to be placed around each child's neck at the end of *Look at You*. Ask the backstage volunteers to help if necessary. Be ready for happy, enthusiastic children. Kids this age think that wearing their pajamas in public is very exciting!

THE SHEEP

Suggested ages: sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders.

Two songs, group speaking parts, ten individual speaking parts which may be split or combined as needed.

For sheep costumes: Oversized white T-shirts and black pants or blue jeans. Cut a large black sheep in profile from felt and glue to the front of the T-shirt. Cotton ball tails, big goggly eyes, and oversized pink lips attached to the felt add to the fun.

Additional information: Adult volunteers backstage will help this group make their entrances. The flexibility of the speaking lines can let each kid who is willing have their moment of fame.

THE SHEPHERDS

Suggested ages: ninth-, tenth-, eleventh-, and twelfth-graders.

Two songs, group speaking parts, one boy soloist, one girl soloist, one individual speaking part.

This group should wear casual clothes. They should plan on adding their shepherd costumes over the top of their street clothes.

For shepherd costumes: The traditional bathrobe with a towel on the head tied with a piece of twine works well. For a more elaborate look, Simplicity pattern number 8153 offers several options for shepherd costumes. Walking sticks, shepherd crooks, and sandals are optional additions. There is plenty of time during the show to change.

Additional information: Adult volunteers may be needed backstage depending on the age level of this choir.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT COSTUMES

Three suggestions:

1. Wear a big box decorated with wrapping paper and ribbon, arm holes cut out, lid tied to the top of the head.
2. Wear a giant gift tag around the neck and a Santa hat or big bow on the head.
3. Instructions to make a giant gift bag that a child carries in front of him:

Cut a piece of narrow-width PVC pipe as wide as the child's shoulders plus an inch or two. Cut this PVC pipe in half and add a PVC T-joint to the center. Attach a short length of pipe to the bottom half of the T-joint. This is what the child holds onto and serves as the underside. Replace the pipes on the sides of the T-joint. Glue all joints.

Drape the front of the pipe with a piece of Christmas fabric cut the same width as the PVC pipe and about as long as the child from his shoulders to his knees plus a few inches. Glue the fabric around the pipe so that the PVC handle is accessible in the back and the front appears smooth.

Straighten out a wire coat hanger and thread a thick piece of cording over the wire. About an inch from each edge of the fabric-covered PVC pipe, drill a tiny hole in the top of the pipe. Pull the cord up to expose a short length of wire and insert the wire into the holes on each side. Secure with hot glue.

Have the child hold the "bag" by the PVC handle on the underside, with the fabric-covered pipe at his shoulders and the cord-covered wire "handle" over his head. The Christmas fabric drapes in front of him. If desired, tissue paper can be glued to the underside of the PVC pipe to poke out around his head. A giant gift tag and lots of curling ribbon tied to the "handle" complete the look.

Make sure the children raise and shake their "gift bags" on the last note of the final song!

THE SET

The set could be something about half finished, as it would be for a rehearsal, with no obstacles for the cast to climb around or fall over. Risers are good to make sure that each face can be seen. This show may be performed without any set at all. A piano needs to be available.

PROPS

- Two copies of a phony script with big letters stating THE SHEPHERDS on the outside cover.
- Pen.
- One beautifully wrapped Christmas present.
- A large box filled with costume supplies.
- One small bow with sticky peel-off backing for each member of your audience. (Ask the children in one of the groups to bring in one bag of bows each.)
- Bags for children to carry the bows that are passed out to each member of the audience.
- The Director's Assistant needs a large bow attached to a clothespin.
- Large bows with ribbons that can be placed around the head of each chorus member.

1 *(The CUSTODIAN sits in the audience in an aisle seat. The*
 2 *rest of the cast is Backstage. The ANNOUNCER enters.)*

3 **ANNOUNCER:** Once upon a time, not a very long time ago,
 4 about last Wednesday, a group of children were
 5 practicing late into the night for their annual Christmas
 6 play ...

7 *(The ANNOUNCER is finished with his part and takes a*
 8 *seat in the audience. All children [except the SNOWFLAKES,*
 9 *who remain Backstage in their snowflake costumes] and*
 10 *adult cast members [except the CUSTODIAN and*
 11 *ANNOUNCER] and those adults assisting with the*
 12 *production move noisily and quickly toward the front. The*
 13 *DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT and the DIRECTOR carry copies*
 14 *of the script with the title "The Shepherds" written plainly on*
 15 *the cover. Except for the SHEEP who are in costume, all are*
 16 *dressed casually, for a rehearsal.)*

17 **DIRECTOR:** *(Claps hands.)* OK! Listen up, everybody! Just
 18 two more things to do ... Oh, wait a minute. We're
 19 missing a whole group of children. Where are the
 20 snowflakes? *(Replace "snowflakes" with the name you*
 21 *normally call this particular group of children.)*

22 **SHEPHERDS, SHEEP, and CHORUS:** *(All speak different*
 23 *things at once and point Off-stage.)* They are putting on
 24 their snowflake costumes. They are getting dressed.
 25 They are out there. *(Etc.)*

26 **DIRECTOR:** What was that? *(Explanations continue from the*
 27 *children.)* They are trying on their snowflake costumes?
 28 OK. Got it. That's good. *(All are quiet.)* Now, there are
 29 just two more things to do, and then we can all get out
 30 of here!

31 **EVERYONE:** *(Cheering)* Hooray!

32 **DIRECTOR:** First, I want to see the shepherd number again
 33 — with costumes this time!

34 **SHEPHERDS:** *(Groaning and whining)* Awww — not
 35 costumes.

1 **DIRECTOR:** Yes, costumes. Now go get yourselves dressed!
 2 *(SHEPHERDS, continuing to groan and whine, exit and put*
 3 *on costumes. DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT exits with them.)*

4 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** *(While exiting)* Oh, come on. It's
 5 not that bad!

6 **DIRECTOR:** Second, I want to run the opening song again.
 7 Everyone take your places. *(Remaining CHILDREN get*
 8 *into their places for the song. SHEEP are scattered out a bit.)*
 9 Could all the sheep flock together please? *(They switch*
 10 *places.)* Everybody smile this time and pronounce your
 11 words clearly, all right?

12 **CHORUS and SHEEP:** *(Smiling and pronouncing in an over-*
 13 *exaggerated way)* All right!

14

15 **SONG:** "Give This Song Away"

16 **CHORUS and SHEEP:** *(Singing)*

17 We are the children singing this song to you.

18 On this joyful holiday,

19 Blessing and love come your way.

20 And if the season makes you sad

21 Because of hard times you have had,

22 Let us take it all away.

23 Take it away.

24 *(Divisi)* (We are the children) Our present for you this day,

25 (We are the children) To take what hurts away,

26 (We are the children) So you can be children too,

27 (We are the children) We give this song to you.

28 Ooo —

29

30 **DIRECTOR:** Very nice! Good work, everybody! *(Walks*
 31 *through the group slapping "high fives" and ends up*
 32 *standing behind them, facing the audience. The CHORUS*
 33 *and SHEEP turn so that their backs are to the audience and*
 34 *sit down.)* It's so late. Have we run this rehearsal past
 35 some bedtimes? Look, all your parents are waiting. *(The*

1 *kids turn their heads and look at the audience. A couple of*
 2 *CHILDREN wave and say, "Hi, Mom!") You have all*
 3 *worked hard, and the show just looks great. Now, we*
 4 *need strong well-rested singers for this performance. I*
 5 *want everyone to go straight home and get some sleep,*
 6 *OK? Go home and go to bed. Now, what are you*
 7 *supposed to do?*

8 **CHORUS and SHEEP:** Go home and go to bed!

9 **DIRECTOR:** Right! Good night, everybody, and thank you.

10 **CHORUS and SHEEP:** *(Calling out farewells as they are*
 11 *leaving)* Good night! Bye! See you later!

12 *(The following four events happen simultaneously in an air*
 13 *of general noise and confusion: 1. The DIRECTOR steps*
 14 *forward and continues to face the audience. 2. CHORUS*
 15 *exits and changes into their pajamas. Several CHORUS*
 16 *members approach the DIRECTOR with questions. Others*
 17 *just want a hug before they go. 3. The SHEEP cluster*
 18 *together as a group, laugh, and run to the far front corners*
 19 *of the room or rear of the stage and "hide." 4. SHEPHERDS*
 20 *begin to enter behind the DIRECTOR while the other*
 21 *children are leaving. They are wearing their shepherd*
 22 *costumes in a rather halfhearted way. The DIRECTOR'S*
 23 *ASSISTANT enters with the SHEPHERDS and observes*
 24 *from the side.)*

25 **SHEPHERDS:** _____. *(Call the DIRECTOR by his*
 26 *or her actual name. The DIRECTOR does not respond, too*
 27 *distracted by the din of the other CHILDREN leaving.)*
 28 _____. *(More impatiently this time, the*
 29 *SHEPHERDS call the DIRECTOR by name. Again, the*
 30 *DIRECTOR does not respond. The CHORUS is out of the*
 31 *room now and the SHEEP are quietly in their hiding place.)*
 32 _____! *(Shouting now, they call the DIRECTOR*
 33 *by name.)*

34 **DIRECTOR:** Yes?

35

- 1 **SONG:** "The Shepherds Revolt"
- 2 **SHEPHERDS:** (*Singing*) Why is there a shepherd in every
- 3 Christmas show?
- 4 We always are the shepherds, we've had enough you
- 5 know.
- 6 Oh, we're watching our sheep, wherever they are.
- 7 We look up in the sky, and lo!
- 8 What a star!
- 9 As you can see, we know this part too well.
- 10 It's getting rather boring, we think that you can tell.
- 11 **GIRL SOLO:** This thing on my head, it makes my hair a mess.
- 12 **BOY SOLO:** That's nothin'. Look at me! I'm wearin' a dress!
- 13 **SHEPHERDS:** Why is there a shepherd in every Christmas
- 14 show?
- 15 We always are the shepherds, we've had enough you
- 16 know.
- 17 If you have to be a shepherd ... Just say no!
- 18
- 19 **DIRECTOR:** Oh, OK, OK, OK! You don't have to be
- 20 shepherds again this year.
- 21 **SHEPHERDS:** (*Peel off costumes and shout.*) All right!
- 22 **DIRECTOR:** I'll just have to think of something else ...
- 23 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 1:** (*Runs into the room,*
- 24 *interrupting*) _____. (*Calls the DIRECTOR by*
- 25 *name.*) I'm sorry. I forgot to give you this. (*Gives*
- 26 *DIRECTOR a beautifully wrapped Christmas present.*) Merry
- 27 Christmas!
- 28 **DIRECTOR:** Why, thank you, _____. (*Calls child by*
- 29 *name.*) It's lovely!
- 30 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 1:** Good night,
- 31 _____. (*Says the DIRECTOR's name. CHILD*
- 32 *runs back out the door.*)
- 33 **DIRECTOR:** Good night! Look at this. It is just beautiful!
- 34 (*Gets an idea.*) Hey! I know! Instead of shepherds, you
- 35 could all be Christmas presents!

1 **SHEPHERDS:** (*Ad lib*) Christmas presents?! OK! Cool!
 2 (*COSTUME MISTRESS enters, anticipating that she will be*
 3 *needed. She brings a big box with her.*)

4 **DIRECTOR:** _____. (*Loudly calls the COSTUME*
 5 *MISTRESS by name, expecting her not to even be in the*
 6 *room, then surprised when she is.*) Oh! I'm going to need
 7 different costumes for the shepherds. Christmas
 8 presents actually, I was thinking ...

9 **COSTUME MISTRESS:** Hey ... no problem. I think I've got
 10 some stuff here that we can use. Let's see ... (*Very briefly*
 11 *the CHOIR MEMBERS look through the box.*)

12 **SHEPHERDS' SPOKESPERSON:** Hey, this stuff is pretty
 13 cool. We're going to be the best Christmas presents
 14 ever!

15 **SHEPHERDS:** Yeah! All right! OK! (*High fives to each other*)

16 **COSTUME MISTRESS:** OK! Let's go get started on these
 17 costumes! Come on! (*COSTUME MISTRESS and*
 18 *SHEPHERDS begin to exit.*)

19 **SHEPHERDS:** Good night, _____! (*Insert the*
 20 *DIRECTOR's name.*) Thank you!

21 **DIRECTOR:** Good night! (*SHEPHERDS complete their exit.*
 22 *DIRECTOR speaks to DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT.*) We are
 23 going to have to make some major revisions in this
 24 script!

25 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** I don't think it will be that bad.
 26 If we change this part here ... (*DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT*
 27 *and the DIRECTOR take the script and begin a hushed*
 28 *discussion off to the side, oblivious of the SHEEP.*)

29 **SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 1:** (*Pops out of her hiding place.*)
 30 Hey, you guys. (*All SHEEP come out of their hiding place.*)
 31 There are no shepherds in the Christmas show. You
 32 know what that means, don't you?

33 **SHEEP:** No. What?

34 **SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 1:** They won't need any sheep!

35 **SHEEP:** Hey! Yeah!

1 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 2: Wait! If we aren't sheep,
 2 then what are we going to be?
 3 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 3: Maybe *we* can be Christmas
 4 presents too.
 5 SHEEP: Hey! Yeah! Cool!
 6 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 4: *We* could be the best
 7 Christmas presents ever.
 8 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 5: We could be Rollerblades.
 9 SHEEP: Huh?
 10 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 5: Rollerblades! The best
 11 Christmas present ever is a pair of Rollerblades. Duh!
 12 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 6: No. A stereo is much better!
 13 Now there you've got a CD player and a radio and a ...
 14 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 7: No! A phone line all your
 15 own — that's the best present!
 16 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 8: Are you kidding?! The best
 17 Christmas present ever is an IBM Pentium III with
 18 MMX, 128 megs of RAM, and speakers with a sub-
 19 woofer. (*Update to the latest greatest.*)
 20 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 9: Oh, this is so cool. Being a
 21 Christmas present is so much better than being a
 22 sheep.
 23 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 10: We have *got* to go tell the
 24 other kids!
 25 SHEEP: Yeah! (*All SHEEP start to leave.*)
 26 DIRECTOR: Wait a minute. (*The SHEEP freeze in their tracks.*)
 27 What are you going to go tell the other kids?
 28 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 10: (*Sheepishly*) Go home and
 29 go to bed?
 30 DIRECTOR: That's more like it. Good night, you guys.
 31 SHEEP: Good night, _____. (*They call the DIRECTOR by*
 32 *name. As the DIRECTOR turns away, the SHEEP gather*
 33 *quickly in a huddle and say in a stage whisper.*) **Let's go tell!**
 34 (*SHEEP exit. During the SHEEP exit, SNOWFLAKE*
 35 *SPEAKER NUMBER 1 enters first, followed by the rest of*

1 *the SNOWFLAKES, dressed in their snowflake costumes.)*
2 **DIRECTOR:** *(As SNOWFLAKES make their entrance)* Oh, this is
3 charming! You all look wonderful! It's official. You've
4 passed inspection. You may all go home now.
5 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 1:** Not yet, _____.
6 *(Insert DIRECTOR's name.)*
7 **DIRECTOR:** And why is that?
8 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 1:** Because we want to
9 practice our snow song.
10 **DIRECTOR:** Practice your snow song? But all your parents
11 are waiting to take you home. Are you sure they won't
12 mind? This rehearsal is running awfully late!
13 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 1:** Let's just ask them!
14 *(To audience)* Would you like to hear our snow song?
15 *(Wait a moment for audience reaction and then begin the*
16 *introduction.)*
17
18 **SONG:** "The Snow Song"
19 **SNOWFLAKES:** *(Singing)* It's snowing, love falling down
20 from the sky.
21 It's snowing, falling on your head, on your hand, and
22 in
23 your eye.
24 The best present that you could give to me,
25 The best present that there could ever be,
26 The best present that I know, let it snow.
27 Oh, let it snow. *(Repeat)*
28 Snow so soft, deep and cool.
29 Snow so much they cancel school!
30
31 **CUSTODIAN:** *(From the audience, interrupting applause)* No,
32 no, no, no. *(He walks up to the front of the room. After*
33 *applause stops, he continues.)* We will not be having snow
34 in this Christmas show!
35 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 2:** *(To the DIRECTOR'S*

1 **ASSISTANT)** Who is this guy?

2 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** _____, (*Says the actual*
3 *name of the CUSTODIAN.*) the custodian.

4 **CUSTODIAN:** You've got all sorts of people in this building
5 for your Christmas show, and every single one of them
6 would be tracking that stuff all over this place. Nope,
7 no snow. I cannot authorize you folks making that kind
8 of mess. We just don't have the budget for the cleanup
9 involved.

10 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** Well, it says right here in the
11 script (*Points to a line in the script*) that the Snowflakes
12 enter on page six ... (*Flips through the pages.*)

13 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 2:** That's us.
14 (*SNOWFLAKES nod their heads in agreement.*)

15 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** And it continues snowing all the
16 way through page eighteen.

17 **CUSTODIAN:** Oh, no it doesn't. There is no snow on my
18 work schedule.

19 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** OhhhKaaay. No snow. No
20 shepherds. No snow. (*Marks out lines in script.*)

21 **CUSTODIAN:** Thank you. Just needed to make that clear.
22 No hard feelings now. (*Gently taps a few SNOWFLAKES*
23 *on the head.*) It's late. You all need to be out of the
24 building real soon. Good night, now! (*CUSTODIAN*
25 *exits.*)

26 **EVERYONE:** Good night, _____. (*They call the*
27 *CUSTODIAN by name.*)

28 **SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 2:** No snow in the
29 Christmas show!

30 **SNOWFLAKES:** (*Chanting*) No snow in the Christmas show!
31 No snow in the Christmas show! (*After three repetitions,*
32 *they start chanting very softly and stop on DIRECTOR's*
33 *"Listen up" line.*)

34 **DIRECTOR:** I guess I'll just have to think of something
35 else ... (*She picks up the Christmas package from before. To*

1 *the SNOWFLAKES*) OK! Listen up, everybody! We've had
 2 a little change with the shepherds ...

3 DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT: What we've had is a mutiny. A
 4 little shepherd mutiny.

5 DIRECTOR: Yes. The shepherds are now going to be
 6 Christmas presents ... and seeing as we now find you in
 7 a similar situation ... Would you guys like to be
 8 Christmas presents, too?

9 SNOWFLAKES: (*Excited*) Yes! (*They jump up and down and*
 10 *clap their hands.*)

11 DIRECTOR: _____! (*Calling the COSTUME*
 12 *MISTRESS*
 13 *by name*) I'm going to need more Christmas present
 14 costumes.

15 COSTUME MISTRESS: (*From some invisible part of the room*)
 16 I've got it! Small-size Christmas presents coming up!

17 SNOWFLAKE SPEAKER NUMBER 2: We are going to be
 18 the best Christmas presents ever!

19 SNOWFLAKES: Oh, thank you, _____! (*Insert*
 20 *DIRECTOR's name.*) Good night!

21 DIRECTOR: You are welcome! Now go home, everybody!
 22 Good night! (*SNOWFLAKES exit and SHEEP enter.*)

23 SHEEP: _____. (*Insert the DIRECTOR's name.*)

24 DIRECTOR: You guys are still here?!

25 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 3: _____,
 26 (*DIRECTOR's name*) we've been talking, and we were
 27 wondering if maybe, if maybe ... well ...

28 SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 4: Oh, let me. _____,
 29 (*DIRECTOR's name*) we want to be Christmas presents,
 30 too.

31 DIRECTOR: I see. Well, of course. If we don't have
 32 shepherds, we certainly don't need sheep.
 33 _____! (*Calling the COSTUME MISTRESS by*
 34 *name*) We are going to need ...

35 COSTUME MISTRESS: (*Interrupting from some unseen point in*

1 *the room*) I'm on it. More present costumes.

2 **SHEEP SPEAKER NUMBER 4:** We are going to be the best

3 Christmas presents ever.

4 **DIRECTOR:** I wouldn't have it any other way. Now go home,

5 everybody! Good night!

6 **SHEEP:** Good night! (*SHEEP exit.*)

7 **DIRECTOR:** (*To DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT*) Is that

8 everybody now? (*COSTUME MISTRESS starts coming up*

9 *the aisle with supplies.*)

10 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** Well, it's everybody but me. I

11 was going to ask, but ... uh ...

12 **DIRECTOR:** You want to be a Christmas present, too.

13 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** Well, if you insist ...

14 **DIRECTOR:** _____! (*Calls the COSTUME MISTRESS*

15 *by name. COSTUME MISTRESS is right beside her again.*)

16 Oh! (*COSTUME MISTRESS gives the DIRECTOR'S*

17 *ASSISTANT a big bow to wear as his Christmas present*

18 *costume. He does not put it on until the cue in the song "Look*

19 *at You."*)

20 **COSTUME MISTRESS:** Hey ... I've got it. Christmas presents

21 all over this place! Oh boy, I'd better get to work! See

22 you later.

23 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT and DIRECTOR:** Good night,

24 _____! (*Say the name of the COSTUME*

25 *MISTRESS.*) Thanks!

26 **COSTUME MISTRESS:** Good night! (*COSTUME MISTRESS*

27 *exits.*)

28 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** Are you going home?

29 **DIRECTOR:** I'd better stay and help _____

30 (*COSTUME MISTRESS's name*) turn these kids into

31 Christmas presents.

32 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** That shouldn't be too difficult.

33 Good night, then.

34 **DIRECTOR:** Good night, _____. (*DIRECTOR'S*

35 *ASSISTANT's name*) Thanks for your help. (*DIRECTOR*

1 *exits. The DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT picks up a few*
 2 *forgotten shepherd costumes. As the DIRECTOR'S*
 3 *ASSISTANT starts to leave, he bumps into a small group of*
 4 *CHORUS MEMBERS who are sneaking in, wearing their*
 5 *pajamas.)*

6 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** *(Surprised)* What are you people
 7 doing here? *(Other groups of CHORUS MEMBERS enter.)*

8 **SMALL GROUPS FROM THE CHORUS:** *(Ad lib)* We can't
 9 sleep.

10 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** You were given direct orders to
 11 go home and go to bed. *(More CHOIR MEMBERS enter*
 12 *in little groups.)* What is this?

13 **OTHER GROUPS FROM THE CHORUS:** *(Ad lib)* We can't
 14 sleep.

15 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 2:** We tried to sleep, we really
 16 did. We went home, we put on our pajamas, but then ...
 17 we heard!

18 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** What did you hear?

19 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 2:** We heard that all the other
 20 kids — the Shepherds, the Snowflakes, and the Sheep —
 21 are not going to play their parts in the Christmas show!

22 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** That is true.

23 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 2:** We heard that they are all
 24 going to be the best Christmas presents ever.

25 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** I believe that's what they said.
 26 Yes.

27 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 2:** Well, _____,
 28 *(DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT's name)* what exactly is the
 29 best Christmas present ever?

30 **DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT:** It is something you should not
 31 be concerned with this late at night. What would your
 32 parents think of you sneaking out like this? Go home
 33 and go to bed, all of you. Now shoo!

34 **CHORUS MEMBER NUMBER 2:** *(Folds his/her arms and*
 35 *holds his/her ground.)* But we want to know what all



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P.O. Box 248 - Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

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